

**Amendments to the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 1-15 and add new claims 16-55 as shown in the listing of claims.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (new): A method for reducing a skin change, comprising applying a topical preparation to the skin, the preparation comprising an amount of an agent effective for reducing the skin change, the agent comprising idebenone or a derivative of idebenone.

Claim 17 (new): The method as recited in claim 16 wherein the skin change includes an aging of the skin.

Claim 18 (new): The method as recited in claim 16 wherein the skin change includes a wrinkling of the skin.

Claim 19 (new): The method as recited in claim 16 wherein the skin change includes an oxidative process.

Claim 20 (new): The method as recited in claim 16 wherein the skin change includes a degenerative process.

Claim 21 (new): The method as recited in claim 16 wherein the idebenone or derivative of idebenone has a concentration of from about 0.0001 to about 30% by weight of the preparation.

Claim 22 (new): The method as recited in claim 16 wherein the derivative of idebenone is an ester of idebenone.

Claim 23 (new): The method as recited in claim 16 wherein the topical preparation further comprises at least one of a glycosaminoglycan, a salt of a glycosaminoglycan, and a hyaluronidase inhibitor.

Claim 24 (new): The method as recited in claim 16 wherein the preparation further comprises at least one ultraviolet filter.

Claim 25 (new): The method as recited in claim 16 wherein the topical preparation further comprises at least one antioxidant.

Claim 26 (new): The method as recited in claim 16 wherein the preparation is in the form of at least one of a lotion, a cream, a gel, a solution, a spray, a cleanser, an ointment, a wax, a lipstick, a soap, and a shampoo.

Claim 27 (new): The method as recited in claim 16 wherein the applying is included in at least one of a cosmetic, an over-the-counter, a dermatological and a pharmaceutical treatment of the skin.

Claim 28 (new): A method for protecting human skin against an oxidative process, comprising applying a topical preparation to the skin, the preparation comprising an amount of an agent effective for reducing an amount of oxidants or free-radicals in the skin, the agent comprising idebenone or a derivative of idebenone.

Claim 29 (new): The method as recited in claim 28 wherein the oxidative process is a photochemical reaction.

Claim 30 (new): The method as recited in claim 28 wherein the oxidative process is a photochemical reaction due to an exposure of the skin to ultraviolet radiation.

Claim 31 (new): The method as recited in claim 28 wherein the free-radicals include hydroxy radicals.

Claim 32 (new): The topical skin preparation as recited in claim 28 wherein the free-radicals include at least one of hydroperoxides and aldehydes.

Claim 33 (new): The method as recited in claim 28 wherein the idebenone or derivative of idebenone has a concentration of from about 0.0001 to about 30% by weight of the preparation.

Claim 34 (new): The method as recited in claim 28 wherein the topical preparation is in the form of at least one of a lotion, a cream, a gel, a solution, a spray, a cleanser, an ointment, a wax, a lipstick, a soap, and a shampoo.

Claim 35 (new): The method as recited in claim 28 wherein the derivative of idebenone is an ester of idebenone.

Claim 36 (new): The method as recited in claim 28 wherein the topical preparation further comprises at least one of a glycosaminoglycan, a salt of a glycosaminoglycan, and a hyaluronidase inhibitor.

Claim 37 (new): The method as recited in claim 28 wherein the preparation further comprises at least one ultraviolet filter.

Claim 38 (new): The method as recited in claim 28 wherein the topical preparation further comprises at least one antioxidant.

Claim 39 (new): The method as recited in claim 28 wherein the applying is included in at least one of a cosmetic, an over-the-counter, a dermatological and a pharmaceutical treatment of the skin.

Claim 40 (new): A method for stabilizing a cosmetic or dermatological preparation, comprising providing in the preparation an amount of an agent effective for reducing an amount of oxidants or free-radicals in the preparation, the agent comprising idebenone or a derivative of idebenone.

Claim 41 (new): The method as recited in claim 40 wherein oxidants or free-radicals are degradation products of a component of the preparation.

Claim 42 (new): The method as recited in claim 40 wherein oxidants or free-radicals are degradation products of a component of the preparation, the component being selected from the group consisting of vitamin A, a derivative of vitamin A, vitamin B, a derivative of vitamin B, vitamin C, a derivative of vitamin C, vitamin E, a derivative of vitamin C, hyaluronic acid and a derivative of hyaluronic acid.

Claim 43 (new): The method as recited in claim 40 wherein the idebenone or derivative of idebenone has a concentration of from about 0.0001 to about 30% by weight of the preparation.

Claim 44 (new): The method as recited in claim 40 wherein the preparation is in the form of at least one of a lotion, a cream, a gel, a solution, a spray, a cleanser, an ointment, a wax, a lipstick, a soap, and a shampoo.

Claim 45 (new): The method as recited in claim 40 wherein the derivative of idebenone is an ester of idebenone.

Claim 46 (new): A skin protection preparation comprising:  
an ultraviolet filter substance; and  
an amount of an agent effective for reducing a formation of oxidation products in human skin due to an oxidative process, the agent comprising idebenone or a derivative of idebenone.

Claim 47 (new): The preparation as recited in claim 46 wherein the ultraviolet filter substance is selected from the group consisting of a 4-aminobenzoic acid derivative, an ester of cinnamic acid, an ester of salicylic acid, a derivative of benzophenone, an ester of benzylidenemalonic acid.

Claim 48 (new): The preparation as recited in claim 46 wherein the ultraviolet radiation includes ultraviolet B radiation from sunlight.

Claim 49 (new): The preparation as recited in claim 46 wherein the idebenone or derivative of idebenone has a concentration of from about 0.001% to about 30% by weight of the preparation.

Claim 50 (new): The preparation as recited in claim 46 wherein the derivative of idebenone is an ester of idebenone.

Claim 51 (new): The preparation as recited in claim 46 wherein the preparation is in the form of at least one of a lotion, a cream, a gel, a solution, a spray, a cleanser, an ointment, a wax, a lipstick, a soap, and a shampoo.

Claim 52 (new): A stabilized topical skin preparation comprising:

a first component selected from the group consisting of vitamin A, a derivative of vitamin A, vitamin B, a derivative of vitamin B, vitamin C, a derivative of vitamin C, vitamin E, a derivative of vitamin C, hyaluronic acid and a derivative of hyaluronic acid; and

an amount of an agent effective for reducing oxidants or free-radical degradation products of the first component, the agent comprising idebenone or a derivative of idebenone.

Claim 53 (new): The preparation as recited in claim 52 wherein the idebenone or derivative of idebenone has a concentration of from about 0.001% to about 30% by weight of the preparation.

Claim 54 (new): The preparation as recited in claim 52 wherein the derivative of idebenone is an ester of idebenone.

Claim 55 (new): The preparation as recited in claim 52 wherein the preparation is in the form of at least one of a lotion, a cream, a gel, a solution, a spray, a cleanser, an ointment, a wax, a lipstick, a soap, and a shampoo.